

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 617

By Bass

A RESOLUTION naming Giles County the “Turkey Capital of Tennessee.”

WHEREAS, from time to time, this body pauses in its deliberations to give recognition to those counties dedicated to the preservation of those values that make this State the finest in the Union; and

WHEREAS, Giles County is one such county, which serves as the hub for the Tennessee Governor’s One-Shot Turkey Hunt, an event that lures hunters from across the nation, and the Gobbler Gala; and

WHEREAS, the wild turkey (*Meleagris gallopavo*) is native to North America and is the heaviest member of the Galliformes; it is one of two species of turkey, the other being the ocellated turkey, found in Central America; and

WHEREAS, with his distinctive gobble and long beard, the wild turkey stands as a noble creature among the many fields and farmlands of this great State; and

WHEREAS, offering his respect and admiration for this great American bird, founding father Benjamin Franklin described the wild turkey as “a true original Native of America... He is besides, though a little vain and silly, a Bird of Courage, and would not hesitate to attack a Grenadier of the British Guards who should presume to invade his Farm Yard with a red Coat on”; and

WHEREAS, County Executive Janette Vanzant, in cooperation with Tennessee Wildlife Resources Agency officials, has successfully endeavored to make Giles County the home of wild turkey hunting in Tennessee; and

WHEREAS, the good citizens of Giles County respect and revere the noble wild turkey, and their appreciation of its qualities is evident all year round; and

WHEREAS, the members of this General Assembly hereby decree that Giles County be recognized because of its close association with the wild turkey; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED SIXTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that we hereby designate Giles County as the "Turkey Capital of Tennessee."

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.